Sale of sub-standard and out-dated dry cells

*157. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the exploitation of customers through the sale of not only, the sub-standard but also out-dated dry cells by the manufacturers, in the absence of indication of date of manufacture on the dry cells;

(b) whether batteries/dry cells come under the Essential Commodities Act; if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of making it mandatory on the part of manufacturers of dry cells to indicate the date of manufacture on their product, to avoid exploitation of the customers; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Consumer Protection Council, Tamil Nadu have in their letter dated 14th July, 1986 brought to the notice of the Government a news item in the Indian Express dated 5th July, 1986 complaining about the sub-standard quality of cells. The matter is being looked into.

Deteriorating telephone services in certain Telephone Exchanges of Delhi

*158. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephones in Delhi under the Exchanges 32, 62 and 66 are not working satisfactorily at present;

(b) whether it is also a fact that of late there has been deterioration in the services of the above telephone Exchanges; and

(c) by when the Government propose to replace these Telephone Exchanges by electronic one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir, However continuous attempt is being made to improve the performance further.

(b) No, Sir. In general, these has been an improvement from January to June, 1986 as compared with corresponding months in 1985.

(c) These exchanges will be considered for replacement after they have outlived their normal prescribed life of twenty five years.

Measures to check losses in the public Sector Units

*159. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether a package of measures has been evolved to ensure that the losing public sector units could reach the stage of "no cash loss" within the current financial year;

(b) if so, what are the details of the package of measures; and

(c) which are the public units in respect of which these measures are being enforced?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) No such package has been evolved for ensuring that the loss making units reach the "no cash loss" stage within the current financial year itself.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.